Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 07149 301922Z

16
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 A-01 OPR-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

IO-10 AID-05 EUR-12 /092 W
---------- 005637
R 301806Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9962
INFO AMCONSUL CALI
AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 7149

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS CO
SUBJ: FARMERS AMBUSHED

1. ON JULY 26 ELEVEN FARMERS WERE AMBUSHED AND KILLED IN THE WESTERN AREA OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BOYACA. THE VICTIMS WERE SURPRISED WHILE ENROUTE BY FOOT TO RECOVER THE BODY OF A RELATIVE WHO HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED AND KILLED ONLY DAYS EARLIER, ALLEGEDLY FOR PASSING INFORMATION CONCERNING GUERRILLA ACTIVITY TO THE POLICE. EARLY REPORTS INDICATED THAT THE ASSASSINS WERE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNIST DIRECTED FARC GUERRILLAS. THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE IN THE KNOWN AREA OF OPERATIONS OF THE FARC 4TH FRONT AND WITNESSES CLAIMED THEY OBSERVED THE KILLERS WEARING BRACELETS WITH THE FARC INSIGNIA. ACCORDING TO LATER REPORTS, POLICE ARE NOW IN DOUBT OVER THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE KILLERS. ONE PRESS SOURCE BELIEVES THAT A COMMON CRIMINAL REFERRED TO AS "CAPITAN CHUCHO" HAS ORGANIZED A BAND OF RURAL KIDNAPPERS WHO SEIZED THE EARLIERVICTIM AND SOUGHT RANSOM, THEN KILLED HIM AND AMBUSHED HIS RELATIVES WHEN NO RANSOM WAS PAID.

2. COMMENT: THERE IS REASON TO DOUBT THE INVOLVEMENT OF FARC IN THIS RECENT MASS MURDER. FARC GUIDED BY A CAUTIOUS COLOMBIAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 07149 301922Z

COMMUNIST PARTY, NORMALLY MOUNTS OPERATIONS AIMED AT EMBARRASSING

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

THE GOC AND GAINING THE SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT OF THE RURAL POOR. POLICE, MILITARY PERSONNEL, AND WEALTHY LANDOWNERS ARE THE USUAL TARGETS OF FARC VIOLENCE. KILLING OF FARMERS, EXCEPT FOR AN OCCASIONAL POLICE INFORMER, IS NOT A FARC TACTIC. FURTHERMORE, THE RECENT MASS MURDER WAS A MESSY AFFAIR, INCLUDING DECAPITATIONS, WHICH IS NOT A FARC TRADEMARK. NEVERTHELESS, IF THE REPORTED NEW BAND OF VIOLENT CRIMINALS DOES EXIST AND CAN LEAD EVEN A PART OF THE RURAL POPULATION TO BELIEVE THAT IT IS A PART OF FARC, FARC ITSELF MAY ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTY IN ITS CAMPAIGN TO WIN THE SYMPATHY OF THE RURAL POOR WITHIN THE 4TH FRONT AREA. ADDING TO ITS TROUBLES, FARC, GUILTY OR NOT OF THE LATEST MASS MURDER, HAS BECOME THE OBJECT OF STEPPED UP PURSUIT BY GOVERNMENT FORCES AND INCREASED ATTACKS BY THE PRESS.
VAKY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, MURDER, CIVIL DISORDERS, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BOGOTA07149
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750263-0926
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975075/aaaaaena.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FARMERS AMBUSHED
TAGS: PINS, CO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006